

**MEDIA RELEASE**



**Attention: News Director  
For Immediate Release  
May 24, 2005**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
DAVID L. HUBER  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
Western District of Kentucky**

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**PROJECT BACKFIRE NETS A LOUISVILLE METHAMPHETAMINE DEALER**

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, announced today that **CHRISTOPHER COLLARD**, age 32, of 3099 Winter Way, Louisville, Kentucky, **pled guilty** to drug trafficking in methamphetamine and cocaine and carrying a firearm during his drug trafficking crimes.

**Collard** faces a maximum term of life imprisonment, a maximum fine of \$3,250,000, and a period of supervised release of not less than 4 years. **Collard** faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years. **Collard** is not eligible for probation, and **there is no parole in the federal system.**

**Collard** acknowledged that prior to his arrest on February 10, 2005, he had been selling approximately ½ ounce of methamphetamine per week for several months. **COLLARD** admitted that he had distributed between 200 and 350 grams of methamphetamine to other people in and around Louisville.

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On February 10, 2005, Louisville Metro Police stopped **COLLARD** in his pickup truck while he was delivering methamphetamine. **COLLARD** was armed with a .380 Lorcin handgun. After his arrest, Louisville Metro Police and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Agents executed a search warrant at **COLLARD's** residence located at 3099 Winter Way, Louisville, Kentucky. Law enforcement seized approximately 50 grams of methamphetamine and 110 grams of cocaine which **COLLARD** intended to distribute to others in and around Louisville.

This is a **Project Backfire** prosecution. **Project Backfire** is a partnership of state and federal law enforcement which targets violent offenders for prosecution to the fullest extent of state and federal law.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Brian Butler, and it was investigated by the Louisville Metro Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

**COLLARD's** sentencing is scheduled for August 22, 2005 at 11:30 a.m. in United States District Court before the Honorable Edward Johnstone, Senior Judge.

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